

REMARKS

Claims 24-39 are pending. The Final Action dated August 7, 2006, in this Application has been carefully considered. The above amendments and the following remarks are presented in a sincere attempt to place this Application in condition for allowance. Claims 20-23 have been canceled in this Response. Claims 24, 26-28, 31, and 35-36 have been amended in this Response. Applicant respectfully requests that the above Claim amendments be entered. Reconsideration and allowance are respectfully requested in light of the above amendments and the following remarks.

Claims 24, 26-28, 31, and 35-36 stand objected to because of identified informalities. Applicant has amended Claims 24, 26-28, 31, and 35-36 in this Response to correct the identified informalities. Accordingly, Applicant respectfully requests that the objections to Claims 24, 26-28, 31, and 35-36 be withdrawn.

Claims 20-23 stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. §102(e) as allegedly being anticipated by U.S. Patent No. 6,971,038 by Santhanam et al. ("Santhanam"). Applicant respectfully traverses these rejections. However, Applicant has canceled Claims 20-23 in this response and therefore submits that these rejections are now moot.

The Examiner has allowed Claims 24-39. Applicant thanks the Examiner.

In the remarks, the Examiner noted that Claim "25" would be allowable if the following element were added to the Claim: ". . . a processor coupled to the channel unit . . . wherein the processor is configured to provide a signal to the channel unit in the event an instruction corresponding to the data channel is executed; wherein the channel unit is configured to respond to the signal from the processor by decrementing a count stored in the counter. . ." Final Action, at Page 5. Applicant respectfully suggests that the Examiner intended to identify Claim 24, instead of Claim 25. Claim 25 depends from Claim 24.

Accordingly, Applicant has amended Claim 24 to stand in independent form and to recite, in relevant part: “*wherein the channel unit is configured to decrement the count stored in the counter when the processor executes an instruction corresponding to the data channel; and wherein the processor is configured to provide a signal to the channel unit in the event an instruction corresponding to the data channel is executed*, and wherein the channel unit is configured to produce a wait signal in the event the count stored in the counter reaches the predetermined value.” (Emphasis added). So amended, Applicant respectfully submits that Claims 24 and 25 are now in condition for full allowance.

Applicant has now made an earnest attempt to place this Application in condition for allowance. For the foregoing reasons and for other reasons clearly apparent, Applicant respectfully requests full allowance of Claims 24-39.

Applicant does not believe that any fees are due; however, in the event that any fees are due, the Commissioner is hereby authorized to charge any required fees due (other than issue fees), and to credit any overpayment made, in connection with the filing of this paper to Deposit Account No. 50-0605 of CARR LLP.

Should the Examiner deem that any further amendment is desirable to place this application in condition for allowance, the Examiner is invited to telephone the undersigned at the number listed below.

Respectfully submitted,

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